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A NATIONAL NEGRO NEWSPAPER

VOL. X, NO. 25      WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 2, 1904.      PRICE, FIVE CENTS

# Hon. Edw. Morrell a Champion of American Rights.

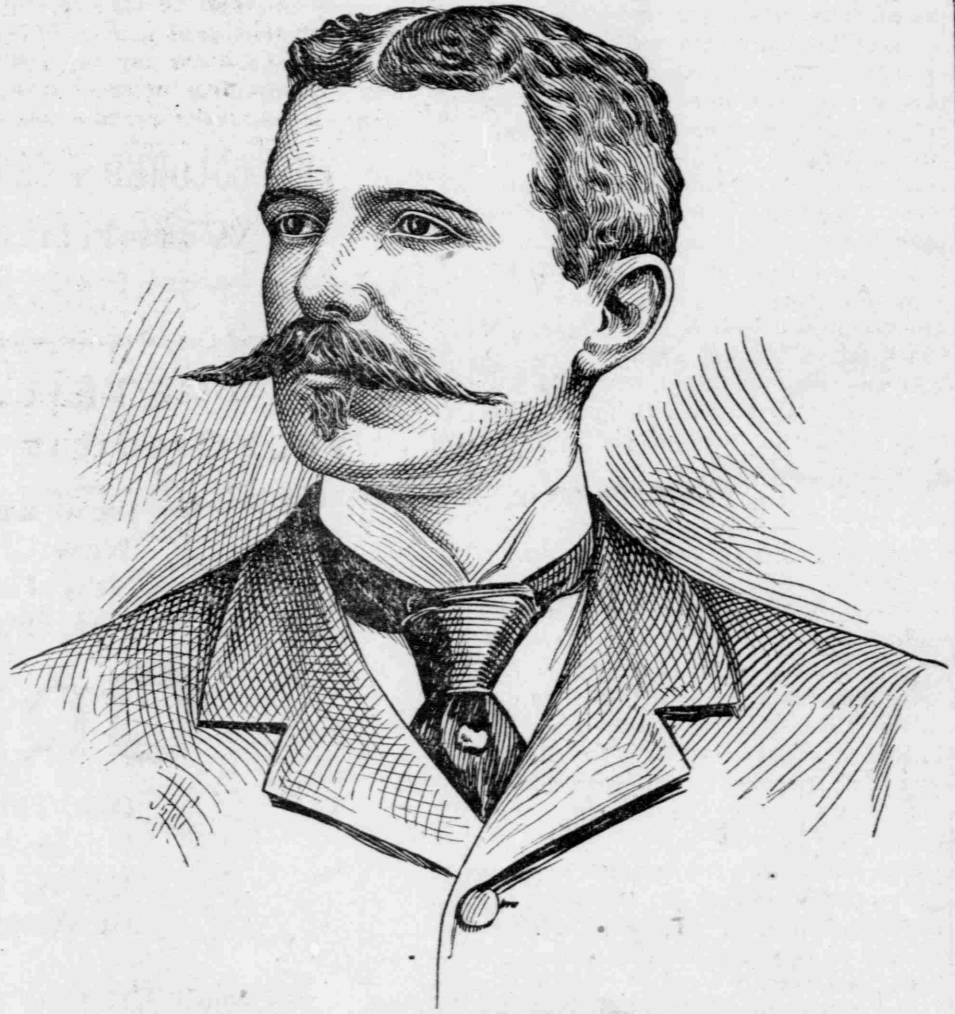
A Bill to Prevent Discrimination by Common Carriers of Passengers Traveling Between the States on Account of Race and Color.—Penn's Aggressive Congressman Takes the Initiative in Protecting the Civil Rights of Ten Millions of Disfranchised American Citizens.

It was Sumner, Phillips, Garrison, and other great advocates of right who laid the foundation for the civil and political enfranchisement of the Negro in this country. Their labor was based upon the principle that "Equality of rights is the first of rights," and they passed from the scene satisfied that the results attained were secure. To-day what was conceded the Negro in the past is being taken away and he asks in the name of law and justice that his friends take a determined stand in the maintenance of the rights of every citizen as guaranteed by the Constitution. No more pronounced response has come than that of Hon. Edward Morrell, a member of Congress from Pennsylvania, who has introduced the following bill in Congress:

**A BILL**  
To prevent discrimination by common carriers of passengers traveling between the States on account of race and color.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and  
2 House of Representatives of the  
3 United States in Congress assembled,  
4  
5 That it shall not be lawful for any  
6 railroad company engaged in business as a common carrier in transporting passengers from one State  
7 to another to make any discrimination in the accommodation to be  
8 furnished passengers traveling  
9 from one State to another on account of race or color, whether  
10 such discrimination be by requiring such passengers to be carried  
11 in cars specially allotted to persons of certain races or colors or  
12 otherwise.  
13  
14 Sec. 2. That any officer, director,

## MEN OF THE HOUR.



GENERAL EDWARD MORRELL, M. C.,  
Who Introduced a bill in the House of Representatives, November 19th, 1903, to Prevent Discrimination by Common Carriers of Passengers Traveling Between the States on Account of Race and Color.

20 or employee of any such corporation who shall make, publish or  
21 undertake to enforce any rule, or  
22 any organization discriminating  
23 against such passengers, on account of race or color, shall be  
24 guilty of an offense against the laws of the United States, and  
25 shall be liable to indictment in the district court of the United States  
26 for the district in which such offense is committed, and upon conviction thereof may be punished  
27 by the imposition of a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or both, at the  
28 discretion of the court.  
29  
30 In this connection a brief biography

of Mr. Morrell will indicate the character of his interest in colored people and their advancement. Born in Newport, R. I., in 1862, his ancestors were all old time Philadelphians distinguished in civil and military life. His grandfather, Dr. Robert Morrell, was a surgeon in the navy in the war of 1812, while his grandmother was a daughter of Col. A. L. Tousand, who came over with Lafayette and entered the army of the United States. Col. John Hare Powell, his grandfather on his mother's side, is well known in the history of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. Col. Powell's wife, Miss De Veau, was a daughter of a Revolutionary hero, Col. Andrew DeVeaux, of

## Noted Negro Inventor.

G. A. Thomas Invents a Carpet Cleaner Which Will Revolutionize House Cleaning and Bring Dollars to His Coffers—Mrs. Fannie Barrier Williams Gives a Lucid Description of the Workings of the Machine and its Many Advantages Over all Others of its Kind.—A Company Organized With a Capital Stock of \$250,000.

Chicago, Ill., Special.—Mr. E. A. Thomas, a colored man of this city, has invented a machine for the cleaning disinfecting or rugs, carpets and other floor coverings, that is pronounced by experts to be one of the most ingenious and practical machines of the kind ever invented. Mr. Thomas, until a year ago, was an employee of the Illinois Central Railroad. He is a man about 45 years of age, of keen intelligence and much force of character. About a year ago he began to study the present awkward, expensive and unsatisfactory way of cleaning carpets and rugs, hotels and restaurants, as well as in private houses. Owing to lack of yard room or commons, and to stringent city ordinances, the cleaning of carpets in cities is a perplexing problem. The present methods are expensive, archaic and in every way unsatisfactory. Thomas became convinced that if some device could be worked out to do away with all these embarrassments, there would be no question about its being seized upon and brought into extensive use.

After more than a year of study and experimenting, attended with many privations and discouragements, Mr. Thomas has perfected his invention, received his patent from Washington, and is now preparing "blue prints" for the purpose of covering his patent rights in European countries.

The following description of the machine, as shown in the prospectus, gives an idea of the character of this wonderful invention.

"When the carpet is drawn into the machine, it is placed under two rapidly revolving brushes, and then it comes in contact with two currents of air, which are forced upon the carpet under a very high pressure,

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